GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
TOURISM
LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:2091
ANSWERED ON:03.12.2001
DEVELOPMENT OF ISLANDS IN LAKSHADWEEP
A.K. PREMAJAM

Will the Minister of TOURISM be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Home Minister in his visit to the Lakshadweep has emphasized that afew islands are proposed to be developed and opened for domestic and foreign tourists;

(b) if so, the reaction of the Government thereto; and

(c) the details of steps taken to encourage tourism in Lakshadweep?

Answer

MINISTER OF TOURISM AND CULTURE (SHRI JAGMOHAN)

(a): Yes, Sir. While inhabited islands Bangaram, Agatti and Kadmat are opened for international tourists, Agatti, Kavaratti and Minicoy are opened only for domestic tourists. The UT Administration of Lakshadweep has propoed to open two moreuninhabited islands named Thinnakara and Cheriyam for international tourism and opening of remaining islands where only domestic tourists are allowed, for international tourists.

(b): In order to promote Lakshadweep as a major tourist destination, CentralDepartment of Tourism has offered financial assistance to prepare a Comprehensive Master Plan for development of tourism in the Island.The UT Administration ofLakshadweep is also considering to seek private investment for opening new Island for setting up infrastructure for tourism as the islands have tremendous potential to emerge as world class water sports and leisure tourism destination.

(c): Development and promotion of tourism to attract foreign as well as domestic tourists is a continuous process. Central Department of Tourism through its 18 overseas and 21 domestic offices is promoting places of tourist interest in Lakshadweep by advertising in print & electronic media, participations in travel fairs, inviting media & Travel Agents and extensive use of IT in tourism promotion.